

REL

So far as service imports duty and subjection, all created beings bear the necessary relation of servants to God. *South.*
Our necessary relations to a family, oblige all to use their reasoning powers upon a thousand occasions. *Watts.*

2. Respect; reference; regard.
I have been importuned to make some observations on this art, in relation to its agreement with poetry. *Dryden.*
Relation consists in the consideration and comparing one idea with another. *Locke.*

3. Connexion between one thing and another.
Arguments, that understand relations, have
By magpies, choughs and rooks brought forth
The secret of man of blood. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

4. Kindred; alliance of kin.
Relations dear, and all the charities
Of fathers, son and brother first were known. *Milton.*
Be kindred and relation laid aside,
And honour's cause by laws of honour try'd. *Dryden.*

Are we not to pity and supply the poor, though they have no relation to us? no relation? that cannot be: the gospel files them all our brethren; nay, they have a nearer relation to us, our fellow-members; and both these from their relation to our Saviour himself, who calls them his brethren. *Sprat.*

5. Person related by birth or marriage; kinsman; kinswoman.
A the cousin, of a good family and small fortune, passed months among all her relations. *Swift.*

Dependants, friends, relations,
Savag'd by woe, forget the tender tie. *Thomson.*

6. Narrative; tale; account; narration; recital of facts.
In an historical relation, we use terms that are most proper.
The author of a just fable, must please more than the writer of an historical relation. *Dennis's Letters.*

RELATIVE, *adj.* [relations, Lat. *relativus*, Fr.]
1. Having relation; respecting.
Not only simple ideas and substances, but modes are positive beings; though the parts of which they consist, are very often relative one to another. *Locke.*

2. Considered not absolutely, but as belonging to, or respecting something else.
The ecclesiastical, as well as the civil government, has cause to pursue the same methods of confirming himself; the grounds of government being founded upon the same bottom of nature in both, though the circumstances and relative considerations of the persons may differ. *South.*

Every thing sustains both an absolute and a relative capacity: an absolute, as it is such a thing, endued with such a nature; and a relative, as it is a part of the universe, and so stands in such relation to the whole. *South.*

Whole and unwhole are relative, not real qualities. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

3. Particular; positive; close in connection. Not in use.
Particular; positive; close in connection. Not in use.
More relative than this. *Shakespeare. Macbeth.*

RELATIVE, *n. f.*
4. Relation; kinsman.
'Tis an evil dutifulness in friends and relatives, to suffer one to perish without reproof. *Taylor.*

2. Pronoun answering to an antecedent.
Learn the right joining of substantives with adjectives, and the relative with the antecedent. *Ascham's Schoolmaster.*

3. Somewhat respecting something else.
When the mind so considers one thing, that it sets it by another, and carries its view from one to the other, this is relation and respect; and the denominations given to positive things, intimating that respect, are relatives. *Locke.*

RELATIVELY, *adv.* [from relative.] As it respects something else; not absolutely.
All those things, that seem so foul and disagreeable in nature, are not really so in themselves, but only relatively. *More.*

These being the greatest good or the greatest evil, either absolutely so in themselves, or relatively so to us; it is therefore good to be zealously affected for the one against the other. *Sprat.*

Consider the absolute affections of any being as it is in itself, before you consider it relatively, or survey the various relations in which it stands to other beings. *Watts.*

RELATIVENESS, *n. f.* [from relative.] The state of having relation.
To RELAX, *v. a.* [relaxo, Lat.]

1. To slacken; to make less tense.
The sinews, when the southern wind bloweth, are more relaxed. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. To remit; to make less severe or rigorous.
The statute of mortmain was at several times relaxed by the legislature. *Swift.*

3. To make less attentive or laborious.
Nor praise relax, nor difficulty fright. *Vanity of Wilkes.*

4. To ease; to divert.
To relax, *v. n.* To be mild; to be remiss; to be not rigorous.

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If in some regards the chose
To curb poor Paulo in too close;
In others the relax'd again,
And govern'd with a looser rein. *Prior.*

RELAXATION, *n. f.* [relaxatio, Fr. *relaxatio*, Lat.]
1. Diminution of tension; the act of loosening.
Cold sweats are many times mortal; for that they come by a relaxation or forsaking of the spirits. *Bacon.*

2. Cessation of restraint.
The sea is not higher than the land, as some imagined the sea stood upon heap higher than the shore; and at the deluge a relaxation being made, it overflow'd the land. *Burnet.*

3. Remission; abatement of rigour.
They childishly granted, by common consent of their whole senate, under their town seal, a relaxation to one Bertelier, whom the eldership had excommunicated. *Hobbes.*

The relaxation of the statute of mortmain, is one of the reasons which gives the bishop terrible apprehensions of poverty coming on us. *Swift.*

4. Remission of attention or application.
As God has not so devoted our bodies to toil, but that he allows us some recreation: so doubtless he indulges the same relaxation to our minds. *Government of the Tongue.*

There would be no business of no business in business. *Addison's Freeholder.*

RELAY, *n. f.* [relais, Fr.] Horses on the road to relieve others.
To RELIEVE, *v. a.* [religere, relaxo, Fr.]

1. To set free from confinement or servitude.
Plato said, whom will ye that I release unto you? *Mat.*
You release'd his courage, and set free

2. To set free from pain.
Why should a reasonable man put it into the power of fortune to make him miserable, when his ancestors have taken care to release him from her? *Dryden.*

3. To free from obligation.
Too secure, because from death release'd some days. *Mil.*

4. To quit; to let go.
He had been bafe, had he release'd his right,
For such an empire none but kings should fight. *Dryden.*

5. To relax; to slacken. Not in use.
It may not seem hard, if in cases of necessity certain profitable ordinances sometimes be release'd, rather than all men always strictly bound to the general rigor thereof. *Hobbes.*

RELIEF, *n. f.* [relief, Fr. from the verb.]
1. Diminution from confinement, servitude or pain.
O fatal search! in which the lab'ring mind,
Still press'd with weight of woe, still hopes to find
A shadow of delight, a dream of peace,
From years of pain, one moment of relief. *Prior.*

2. Relaxation of a penalty.
The king made a great feast, and made a release to the provinces, and gave gifts. *Esdras. ii. 18.*

3. Remission of a claim.
The king would not have one penny abated, of what had been granted by parliament; because it might encourage other countries to pray the like release or mitigation. *Bacon.*

4. Acquittance from a debt signed by the creditor.
To RELEGATE, *v. a.* [relegare, Fr. *relego*, Lat.] To banish; to exile.

RELEGATION, *n. f.* [relegation, Fr. *relegatio*, Lat.] Exile; judicial banishment.
According to the civil law, the extraordinary punishment of adultery was deportation or relegation. *Ayliffe.*

To RELENT, *v. n.* [relentir, Fr.]
1. To soften; to grow less rigid or hard; to give.
In some houses, sweetmeats will relent more than in others.

2. To melt; to grow moist.
In that soft season, when descending showers
Call forth the greens, and wake the rising flowers;
When opening buds salute the welcome day,
And earth relenting feels the genial ray. *Pope.*

3. To grow less intense.
Crows seem to call upon rain, which is but the comfort they seem to receive in the relenting of the air. *Bacon.*

4. To grow less attentive or laborious.
Salt of tartar, brought to fusion, and placed in a cellar, will, in a few minutes, begin to relent, and have its surface softened by the imbibed moisture of the air, wherein if it be left long, it will totally be dissolved. *Boyle.*

5. To grow less intense.
All nature mourns, the skies relent in showers,
Hush'd are the birds, and clos'd the drooping flowers;
If Delia smile, the flowers begin to spring,
The skies to brighten, and the birds to sing. *Pope.*

6. To grow less intense.
I have marked in you a relenting truly, and a slackening of the main career, you had so notably begun, and almost performed.
The workmen let glass cool by degrees in such relenting of fire, as they call their heating heats, lest it should shiver pieces by a violent succeeding of air. *Digby on Bodies.*

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To soften in temper; to grow tender; to feel compassion.
Can you behold
My tears, and not once relent? *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*

To shake the head, relent, and sigh, and yield
To christian intercessors. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*

Undoubtedly he will relent, and turn
From his displeasure.
He sung, and hell consented
To hear the poet's pray'r;
Stern Proserpine relent,
And gave him back the fair. *Pope.*

To RELIANT, *v. a.*
1. To slacken; to remit. Obsolete.
Apace he shot, and yet he fled apace,
And oftentimes he would relent his pace,
That him his foe more fiercely should pursue. *Par. Queen.*

2. To soften; to mollify. Obsolete.
Air hated earth, and water hated fire,
Till love relent'd their rebellious ire. *Spenfer.*

RELENTLESS, *adj.* [from relent.]
1. Unpitying; unmoved by kindness or tenderness.
For this th' avenging pow'r employs his darts;
This will perforce, relenting in his ire,
Till the fair slave be render'd to her fire. *Dryden.*

2. In *Milton*, it perhaps signifies unremitted; intensely fixed upon disgusting objects.
Only in destroying, I find ease
To my relentless thoughts. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

RELEVANT, *adj.* [French.] Relieving. *Dist.*
RELEVATION, *n. f.* [relevatio, Lat.] A raising or lifting up.
RELIANCE, *n. f.* [from rely.] Trust; dependance; confidence; repose of mind. With an before the object of trust.
His days and times are pass,
And my reliance on his sacred days.
Has limit my credit. *Shakespeare. Timon of Athens.*

That pellucid gelatinous substance, which he pitches upon with so great reliance and positiveness, is chiefly of animal constitution. *Woodward.*

He secured and encreas'd his prosperity, by an humble behaviour towards God, and a dutiful reliance on his providence. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

They afforded a sufficient conviction of this truth, and a firm reliance on the promises contained in it. *Rogers.*

Religion in death, and reliance on the divine mercies, give comfort to the friends of the dying. *Clarissa.*

Misfortunes often reduce us to a better reliance, than that we have been accustomed to fix upon. *Clarissa.*

RELICK, *n. f.* [reliquiae, Lat. *reliquie*, Fr.]
1. That which remains; in which is left after the loss or decay of the rest. It is generally used in the plural.
Up dreary dame of darkness queen,
Go gather up the reliques of thy race,
Or else go them to avenge. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

2. The fragments, scraps, the bits and greasy reliques of her overgrown faith are bound to Diomedes. *Shakespeare.*

Not death itself can wholly wash their stains,
But long contracted filth ev'n in the soul remains;
The reliques of inveterate vice they wear,
And spots of sin. *Dryden's Enri.*

3. It is often taken for the body deserted by the soul.
What needs my Shakespeare for his honour'd bones,
The labour of an age in piled stones;
Or that his hallow'd reliques should be hid
Under a star-pointed pyramid. *Milton.*

In peace, ye shades of our great grandfathers, rest;
Eternal spring, and rising fountains adorn
The reliques of each venerable urn. *Dryden.*

Shall our reliques second birth receive?
Sleep we to wake, and only die to live?
Thy reliques, Rowe, to this fair shrine we trust,
And sacred place by Dryden's awful dust;
Beneath a rude and nameless stone he lies,
To which thy tomb shall guide enquiring eyes. *Pope.*

3. That which is kept in memory of another, with a kind of religious veneration.
Crows flutter'd into rags, then reliques leaves
The sport of winds. *Milton.*

This church is very rich in reliques; among the rest, they show a fragment of Thomas à Becket, as indeed there are very few treasures of relics in Italy, that have not a tooth or a bone of this saint. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*

RELICKLY, *adv.* [from reliquiae.] In the manner of reliques.
Thrifty wench scrapes kitchen fluff,
And barrelling the droppings and the snuff
Of wasting candles, which in thirty year
Relickly kept, perhaps buys wedding cheer. *Donne.*

RELIQUARY, *n. f.* [reliquaria, old Fr. *reliqua*, Lat.] A widow; a wife desolate by the death of her husband.

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If the fathers and husbands were of the household of faith, then certainly their reliques and children cannot be strangers in this household. *Sprat's Sermons.*

Chaffo reliquae!
Honour'd on earth, and worthy of the love
Of such a spouse, as now resides above. *Garth.*

RELIEF, *n. f.* [relief, Fr.]
1. The prominence of a figure in stone or metal; the seeming prominence of a picture.
The figures of many ancient coins rise up in a much more beautiful relief than those on the modern; the face sinking by degrees in the several declensions of the empire, till about Constantine's time, it lies almost even with the surface of the medal. *Addison on Ancient Medals.*

Not with such majesty, such bold relief,
The forms august of kings, or conqu'ring chief,
E'er swell'd on marble, as in verse have thin'd,
In polish'd verse, the manners and the mind. *Pope.*

2. The recommendation of any thing, by the interposition of something different.
Thoughts in my unquiet breast are risen,
Tending to some relief of my extremes. *Milton.*

3. Alleviation of calamity; mitigation of pain or sorrow.
That which frees from pain or sorrow.
So should we make our death a glad relief
From future shame. *Dryden's Knight's Tale.*

4. That which frees from pain or sorrow.
Nor dar'd I to presume, that press'd with grief,
My flight should urge you to this dire relief;
Stay, stay your steps. *Dryden's Enri.*

5. Diminution of a sentiment from his post.
For this relief, much thanks; 'tis bitter cold,
And I am sick at heart. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

6. [Reliefum, law Lat.] Legal remedy of wrongs.
RELIEVABLE, *adj.* [from relieve.] Capable of relief.
Neither can they, as to reparation, hold plea of things, wherein the party is relievable by common law. *Hale.*

To RELIEVE, *relève*, Lat. *relevare*, Fr.]
1. To recommend by the interposition of something dissimilar.
As the great lamp of day,
Through diff'rent regions, does his course pursue,
And leaves one world but to revive a new;
While, by a pleasing change, the queen of night
Relieves his lustre with a milder light. *Stepney.*

Since the inculcating precept upon precept will prove tiresome, the poet must not encumber his poem with too much business; but sometimes relieve the subject with a moral reflection. *Addison's Essay on the Georgicks.*

2. To support; to assist.
Parallels, or like relations, alternately relieve each other; when neither will pass afunder, yet are they plausible together. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

3. To ease pain or sorrow.
4. To succour by assistance.
From thy growing store,
Now lend assistance, and relieve the poor;
A pittance of thy land will set him free. *Dryden.*

5. To set a sentinel at rest, by placing another on his post.
Honest soldier, who hath relieved you?
—Bernardo has my place, give you good night. *Shakespeare.*

6. To right by law.
Relieve the centuries that have watch'd all night. *Dryden.*

RELIEVER, *n. f.* [from relieve.] One that relieves.
He is the protector of his weakness, and the reliever of his wants. *Rogers's Sermons.*

RELIEVO, *n. f.* [Italian.] The prominence of a figure or picture.
A convex mirror makes the objects in the middle come out from the superficies: the painter must do so in respect of the lights and shadows of his figures, to give them more relief and more strength. *Dryden's Dunciad.*

To RELIGHT, *v. a.* [re and light.] To light anew.
His pow'r can heal me, and relight my eye. *Pope.*

RELIGION, *n. f.* [religio, Fr. *religio*, Lat.]
1. Virtue, as founded upon reverence of God, and expectation of future rewards and punishments.
He that is void of fear, may soon be just,
And no religion binds men to be traitors. *Benj. Johnson.*

One spoke much of right and wrong,
Of justice, of religion, truth and peace
And judgment from above. *Milton.*

If we consider it as directed against God, it is a breach of religion; if as to men, it is an offence against morality. *South.*

By her inform'd, we best religion learn,
Its glorious object by her aid discern. *Blackmore.*

Religion or virtue, in a large sense, includes duty to God and our neighbour; but in a proper sense, virtue signifies duty towards men, and religion duty to God. *Watts.*

2. A system of divine faith and worship as opposite to others.
The image of a brute, adorn'd
With gay religions, full of pomp and gold. *Milton.*

The christian religion, rightly understood, is the deepest and choicest piece of philosophy that is. *More.*